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17 February 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel Albert M. Welsh

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SUBJECT : Drift Site Training for [Redacted]

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1. Recent information from the training detachment indicates the need for more and better training in the use of the drift site installed in [Redacted]

2. The training detachment indicates that there is a training gap between the classroom instruction and the actual air operation of the drift site in the U-2 aircraft. They propose that a ground trainer be developed so that this problem may be overcome. This solution would take time and considerable money to develop and would serve only as a means of practicing procedures, since it would be next to impossible to simulate actual flight conditions.

3. I would like to suggest that we consider installing the drift site in the T-33 as a more suitable solution to this problem. This installation could be used for instruction and familiarization in the air. More realistic training could be simulated under both ideal and actual operation conditions.

4. The importance of this training requirement should be considered since the operation of the C camera is wholly dependent and precision navigation is dependent on proper and accurate operation of the drift site.

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